



Quota Management Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time	Tuesday 18 th August 2022 at 2.30pm
Location	National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty
Chair	Official from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)
Members in National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty	DAFM: 1 attendee
Members via videoconference	<p>DAFM: 6 attendees</p> <p>Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA): 1 attendee</p> <p><u>Industry Representatives:</u></p> <p>Co-ops Umbrella Group: 1 member and 1 observer</p> <p>Irish Fish Producers Organisation (IFPO): 1 member</p> <p>National Inshore Fisheries Forum (NIFF): 1 member</p> <p>Irish South & East Fish Producer Organisation (ISEFPO): 1 member</p> <p>Irish South and West Fish Producer Organisation (ISWFPO): 1 member</p> <p>Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association (IFPEA): 1 member</p> <p>Killybegs Fishermens Organisation (KFO): 1 member and 1 observer</p>
Apologies	Irish Islands Marine Resource Organisation (IIMRO)

1. Conflict of Interest

The Conflict-of-Interest statement was read at the start of the meeting.

The Department thanked QMAC members who had submitted updated declaration of interest forms and asked members that hadn't to submit their forms as soon as possible. All forms received will be acknowledged in the coming week.



2. Items added to the Agenda

The KFO representative asked that the closure of the 2022 Albacore Tuna Fishery and how the closure was communicated to individual vessels be included for discussion under AOB.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes from the July QMAC meeting were circulated to the QMAC members for comments before today's meeting. The Department advised no observations were received from the QMAC members regarding the minutes prior to the meeting. At today's meeting, the ISWFPO representative requested that the minutes of the July meeting be updated to reflect that certain matters which were set out in the minutes were raised by him on behalf of the ISWFPO at that meeting. The Department asked the representative to submit the clarification in writing.

The Department further advised that it would publish the meeting minutes on the Department website when it is publishing the September Fisheries Management Notices.

4. Swaps

The Department advised that the following swaps had been completed since the last QMAC meeting and the figures were included in the white fish sheets.

Completed swaps:

Swap 1 – UK

IRL to UK:

225t MAC/2CX14-
(That may be fished in area MAC/*4A-UK)
7t COD/5BE6A

UK to IRL:

70t HKE/571214
30t ANF/07.
80t NEP/07.

Swap 2 – UK

UK to IRL:

50t ANF/07.

IRL to UK:

105t WHG/7X7A-C

Swap 3 – France

FRA to IRL:

18.81t POK/1N2AB.

IRL to FRA:

20t COD/1N2AB.

Swap 4 – UK

UK to IRL:

8t HAD/7X7A34
60t NEP/07.

IRL to UK:

72t MAC/2CX14-



The figures from swap 4 have been updated in on the whitefish sheets but haven't been transferred yet by the commission.

Swap for discussion:

Swap 1 – UK

UK to IRL:

12t HAD/7X7A34

IRL to UK:

100t LIN/*04-C

This swap was received from the ISEFPO. As this is a Special condition of which up to 40 % of LIN/6X14. may be fished in United Kingdom and Union waters of LIN/*04-C., there was a discussion about if this was the use of the area only or if quota from the main area was included. The ISEFPO will contact the UK PO to get clarification on this matter. The recommendation was to support this swap if it is just for the use of the area only.

Swap 2 - France

The Department was advised by the ISEFPO that a French PO is looking for Mackerel (MAC/2CX14-), Celtic sea Cod (COD/7XAD34) a few Plaice in 7 h,j,k (PLE/7HJK.) and Undulate ray (RJU/7DE.) and has proposed Pollack 7 (POL/07) and Monkfish 7 (ANF/07) in return. They also asked if Ireland needed Nephrops in 7 (NEP/07) and in the porcupine (NEP/*07U16).

It was agreed that the only stock Ireland could offer was 8t of Undulate ray (RJU/7DE.). The Department advised that the Commission had sent the deduction regulation and Ireland had caught 1.741t of Thorn back ray RJC/07Din 2021 and has no quota in that area. The Department advised that this was caught as a by catch in the scallop fishery and was a sub area of Skates and rays SRX/07D. The Department informed the QMAC that a swap would be needed to repay the 1.741t and that there was 0.337t caught this year so far and 0.339t of Blondie ray that is also a sub area of the skates and rays. The ISEFPO will contact the French PO to discuss a swap regarding swapping Undulate ray (RJU/7DE.) for the skates and rays SRX/07D.

Swap 3 – UK

The Department has received the following proposal from the LFPO in the UK:

The LFPO is offering 10.5 tonnes VII Nephrops in exchange for 3.0 Ton VII B-K Cod or 21 tonnes Nephrops in exchange for 6.0 tonnes VII B-K Cod

The LFPO asked Ireland to help them with some B-K Cod, even if it is only a small amount 2 or 3 tonnes, that will be very helpful to them.

The recommendation was that Ireland should help and swap 2 to 3 tonnes. The ISWFPO advised that the LFPO doesn't have Fu16 Nephrops to swap so will discuss this swap with the LFPO and try get a proposal with one of the other high priority stocks.



Other swap items discussed

Herring area 4ab (HER/4AB.)

Ireland has 300t quota for 2022 received from the Netherlands (257.33 from swap 32 of 2021 and 42.67 from swap 8 of 2022). Ireland still must transfer 350t to Denmark for 2021 quota swap. The KFO advised that their counterpart in Denmark will be meeting the Danish administration this week and the KFO will update the Department on the outcome of this meeting in the coming days.

Discussion of potential swaps:

The KFO advised that they are discussing two possible swaps.

1. The first swap is with a Scottish PO. The Scottish PO is looking for Saithe in area 6 and blue ling and has Nephrops in FU16, Hake, Haddock area 7 b-k and Nephrops in area 6 to offer in return. The recommendation was that Ireland had 100t of saithe and 28t of blue ling available to swap. The KFO will continue the discussion with the Scottish PO and will inform the Department when there is a formal proposal.
2. The second swap is with a French PO that is looking for Sole 7 hjk and has Nephrops in FU16, Hake, and Haddock area 7 b-k to offer in return. The recommendation was that Ireland had 10t available to swap. The KFO will continue the discussion with the French PO and will inform the Department when there is a formal proposal.

The ISWFPO advised that they have been contacted by a Scottish PO offering FU16 nephrops for Mackerel and that the Scottish PO will be emailing a proposal to the Department in the coming days.

Discussion on (i) identifying priority stocks to be swapped in and (ii) identifying stocks to be used as currency

Following a lengthy discussion on swaps the following stocks were highlighted a priority:

- Porcupine Nephrops NEP/*07U16 - 130t
- Hake HKE/571214 – 200t to 300t
- Haddock HAD/6B1214 - 40t to 50t
- Haddock HAD/7X7A34 – 100t to 200t

Stock to be used as currency:

- Saithe 6 POK/56-14 – 100t
- Blue Ling BLI/5B67 – 28t
- Cod COD/07A – 15t
- Cod COD/5BE6A – 10t
- Cod COD/7X7AD34 – 2t to 3t
- Sole SOL/7HJK – 10t
- Whiting WHG/07A – 100t



- Whiting WHG/7X7 – 500t can be made available to swap out now. This to be reviewed again in September in light of uptake in the fishery.
- Mackerel MAC/2CX14 – 194t (currently remaining out of 2% set aside under policy):
 - Note - The Department advised that 110t of the remaining 194t of mackerel available for swaps is set aside for a swap for Crab in the BSA, if this is required. This ratio is based on the ratio applied by France to secure the effort swap earlier in the year. The current uptake of Crab in the BSA is ~35%. Uptake of this quota to be reviewed in September.

The KFO, ISEFPO and ISWFPO advised that they will contact their counterparts in other member states and UK to try secure the necessary swaps outlined and work together to ensure the best ratio will be obtained and that they work within the currency available.

5. Tie up Scheme

The Department advised that 60 over 55ft boats and 12 under 55ft boats have applied for the Tie-up Scheme. This would be taken into consideration when recommending quotas for September.

6. Whitefish - Discussion on particular regimes

Cod in area 6A

Figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 65.04% including carryover with 52t remaining including carryover amounts. There was discussion on whether to set quota aside as currency for swaps. It was recommended that up to 10t could be used as currency for swaps.

All agreed to recommend the regime remain the at 3/1.50 for September

Cod in area 7A

Figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 42.04% including carryover with 67t remaining including carryover amounts. There was discussion on whether to set quota aside as currency for swaps. It was recommended that up to 15t could be used as currency for swaps.

All agreed to recommend the regime remain the at 1/0.50 for September.

Cod in area 7 b-k

Figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 74.85% including carryover with 87t remaining including carryover amounts. There was discussion on whether to set quota aside as currency for swaps. It was recommended that 2t to 3t could be used as currency for swaps.

All agreed to recommend the regime remain the same at 0.50/0.25 for September.



Haddock in area 6b (Rockall)

Figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 86.35% including carryover with 62t remaining including carryover amounts. The SFPA advised that there were currently 4 boats active in the fishery, 5 boats participated in July. Following discussions, it was recommended that a swap of 40t to 50t would be required to have a two-month fishery in this area.

All agreed to recommend that the regime should be reduced to 9/4.50 for September.

Haddock in area 7b-k

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 75.01% including carryover with 845t remaining including carryover amounts. Industry representatives recommended that the stock should be included on the priority swaps with 100t to 200t required.

All agreed to recommend regime be unchanged at 9/6/3

Hake

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 78.29% including carryover with 792t remaining including carryover amounts. Industry representatives recommended that the stock should be included on the priority swaps with 200t to 300t required.

All agreed to recommend that the regime be reduced to 12/6 for September.

Monkfish in area 6

It is recommended that the regime for September remain at 9/4.50 as the price for this stock will be better at the end of the year.

Nephrops in area 6

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 100.80% including carryover with - 1t remaining including carryover amounts. These figures include a projected catch for August of 90t. The SFPA advised that as of today the total uptake in the fishery excluding contingency but including catch in operations 131t. This would indicate that there is currently 50t remaining to cover any catch to the end of August. The SFPA have been asked to continue to monitor uptake figures and to advise the Department if the available quota is nearing exhaustion.

It was agreed by all to recommend that a small regime be put in place for September to allow for by-catch for local boats.

A request was received that for September the under 55ft boats would receive the same catch limit as the over 55ft vessels for this fishery.

All agreed to recommend 0.50/0.50 for September



Nephrops Area 7

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 74.84% including carryover with 1,708 tonnes including carryover amounts remaining for the year.

The Committee was advised that the uptake of quota has reduced as a result of the tie-up scheme and that it is expected that weather conditions in September would also likely slow the quota uptake.

All agreed to recommend the regime be increased to 18/9 for September.

Nephrops FU16

All agreed to recommended that the fishery remain closed in September. Following discussion, it was recommended that this stock be placed on the priority list for swaps with approx 130t required to ensure two months fishing at the end of the year.

Plaice in area 7hjk

Figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 71.37% including carryover with 11t remaining. It was recommended that this regime would have to be reduced for September.

All agreed to recommend 0.50/0.25 for September.

Pollock in area 7

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 43.68% including carryover with 366 tonnes including carryover amounts remaining for the year.

For the past number of months, the over 55ft and Under 55ft boats had been receiving the same catch limit of 10 tonnes. For September it is recommended that the catch limit for the under 55ft vessels return to 50% of the over 55ft vessels.

All agreed to recommend 16/8 tonnes for September.

Sole area 7hjk

All recommend that 10t could be used as currency for swaps and the regime to be maintained at 1/0.5.

Whiting area 7a

All recommended that 100t could be made available as currency for swaps. All agreed to maintain the same regime as for August of 10/5.



Whiting in 7b-k

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 40.11% including carryover with 2,435 tonnes including carryover amounts remaining for the year.

The Committee was advised that there are a number of boats tied up in August and will be back fishing in September.

The Committee was also advised that due to the scientific advice for the stock for 2023 it was important that the maximum carry over of 10% be held for carry over to 2023.

Following discussions, it was agreed to recommend that 500t be made available now as currency for swaps and reviewed again at the September meeting where a further amount may be recommended.

All agreed to recommend the regime remain unchanged at 60/30 for September.

Mackerel Hook and Line

The figures at today's meeting showed an uptake of 158.31t (39.57%). In light of the low uptake, it was requested that the catch limit set at 3t for August be increased to 5t for the month of September.

All agreed to recommend 5t for September.

Under 18 Mackerel

The figures at today's meeting showed an uptake 54.18t (32.25%).

All agreed to recommend 2t for September.

Crab Effort in the BSA

The figures at today's meeting showed an uptake of 35.42% of crab effort in the BSA.

Industry representatives agreed to review the figures in September to see if a further swap is required. The Department advised that 110t of the remaining mackerel available for swaps had been ring fenced for this swap, as discussed at previous meetings of the QMAC, based on the ratio applied by France to secure the effort swap earlier in the year.



7. Pelagic Issues

2022 Irish Sea Herring Fishery

The Department advised that the closing date for vessels to book in for the fishery is close of business today. To date 26 vessels have booked in. A lottery to select vessels to participate in the fishery will be held on Friday the 26th of August 2022.

2022 Celtic Sea Herring Main Scientific Fishery

The Department advised that the lottery to select 2 pairs of vessels to participate in the 2022 data collection fishery took place on the 8th of August. The successful vessels have been notified. A reserve list was created.

Northwest Herring Scientific Fishery

The Department advised that in preparation for the autumn fishery an e-mail had been sent to the NWH Stakeholders group on the 9th of August to request their proposal regarding data collection for the stock for the remaining 2022 quota. The Department provided the following breakdown of the 2022 quota and uptake:

The 2022 quota for Herring in area HER/6AS7BC was set at 1,236t, a deduction of -93t will be taken off the top due to overfishing in 2021, the SFPA have advised that 596t was landed in the Spring fishery leaving **547t** for the Autumn data collection fishery.

In regard to the overfishing in 2021, the Department advised that a quota swap to cover part of the overfishing had been secured at the end of 2021, however a swap to cover the remaining - 93t could not be found.

Albacore Tuna Closure

The Department advised that the Minister approved the closure of the 2022 fishery for all vessels on the 16th of August when the SFPA advised that Ireland's quota had been landed and exceeded. The Department advised that a deduction from the 2023 quota would be applied by the Commission for overfishing in accordance with the control regulation (1224/2009 Art 105). The Department also advised that this overfishing would be included by ICCAT when setting the EU quota in 2024 when that TAC was being set which has implications for other member states as well as for Ireland. Industry representatives agreed it would be necessary to seek a swap, however currency to pay for such a swap would be a problem.

Industry representatives at today's meeting expressed concerns that the return to port time of 23.59 hours for the trawl fishery closure on the 14th of August at 12.30 hours was not sufficient. The Department advised of the timelines involved in the closure.

The KFO representative asked if the closure had been communicated to individual vessels in the fishery. The Department advised that it is currently not the practice to communicate



directly with vessel owners and that the current practice is to notify the Producer Organisations, the SFPA and the Navy.

A discussion regarding the introduction of additional management arrangements in advance of the 2023 fishery was held. It was agreed that this will need to be re-visited in advance of next year's fishery.

Allocation of Mackerel quota

The Department advised the draft Commission Implementing Regulation adding to the 2022 fishing quotas remaining quotas not fished in 2021, indicated that for Mackerel the transferable quantity will be 972t. This amount is currently unallocated.

The Department wrote to Industry representatives to seek their views for the management of the quota. One reply was received from the Coops

The Co-op representative clarified that *"given the precarious position of a number of demersal stocks, the Coop's respectfully request that as much as possible be allocated for whitefish swaps,"*

At today's meeting Industry representatives queried if this quota should be managed in accordance with mackerel policy. The Department will revert to the QMAC on this matter.

8. Quota Balancing update:

Demersal QB

Final Quota Balancing statements for the 2022 June Demersal Fishery issued on the 17th of August.

Pelagic QB

Final Quota Balancing statements for the RSW Blue Whiting Fishery and for the Polyvalent Blue Whiting Fishery issued on the 12th of August.

AOB

The KFO item regarding the communication of the closure of the Tuna Fishery has been covered above.

The next Quota Management meeting is scheduled for the 21 September at 10am

Sea Fisheries Policy & Management Division

19 August 2022